

Reply to Final Under 37 CFR §1.116
Attorney Docket No.: KMG1097-US1
U.S. Serial No.: 10/670,981

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed and considered the current Office Action and the reference(s) cited therein. Claims 28 and 29 are herein amended; no claims are herein canceled; and no claims are herein added. As a result, Claims 12-14, 28, and 29 are pending in this application.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview on April 11, 2006. No agreement was reached. The Examiner and Applicants appear to disagree as to the meaning of "removable" and "removably attached."

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to Claims 28 and 29, asserting the following informalities and requiring appropriate correction:

In claim 28, line 3, "the body section" should be "each body section".

In claim 29, line 1, the phrase "where in the removable liners are" should be replaced with the phrase "wherein each of the removable liners is".

The Examiner has also objected to Claims 28 and 29 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(i) and has required appropriate correction.

The Examiner's objections are well taken and most of the Examiner's suggestions have been herein adopted. However, Applicants contend that the phrase "*the* body section" (emphasis added) is appropriate because the phrase refers to "a substantially cylindrical body section" (emphasis added) of each component. This is made more clear in amended Claim 28, which has been herein amended as required by the Examiner pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.75(i). Applicants have also herein amended Claim 29 as suggested by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner has rejected Claims 28 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. More specifically, the Examiner asserts:

In claim 28, lines 3-5, the use of "or" renders the claim indefinite. In lines 3-4, the phrase "each component including a tangential inlet or outlet" erroneously allows for each component to have an inlet, or for each component to have an outlet. In lines 4-5, it is unclear as to which inlet or outlet the phrase "the tangential inlet or tangential outlet containing a removable liner" refers; there is an inlet or outlet on each component.

OK
JmH
7/8/06